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REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 1st March 1890.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	Bengali.			
	Fortnightly.			
1	"Ahammadí"	Tangail, Mymensingh	450	
2	"Ave Maria"	Calcutta ...	.....	
3	"Divákar"	Ditto ...	.....	
4	"Gaura Duta"	Maldah ...	.....	
5	"Kasipore Nibási"	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	30	First fortnight, Fálgun 1296B.E.
6	"Purva Bangabásí"	Noakholly ...	.....	
7	"Purva Darpan"	Chittagong ...	700	
8	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi"	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....	
	Weekly.			
9	"Arya Darpan"	Calcutta ...	102	24th February 1890.
10	"Bangabásí"	Ditto ...	20,000	22nd ditto.
11	"Bángálá Exchange Gazette" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	21st, 24th and 25th February 1890.
12	"Burdwán Sanjíbaní"	Burdwan ...	302	18th February 1890.
13	"Chandra Vilásh"	Berhampore ...	250	
14	"Cháruvártá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	17th ditto.
15	"Chattal Gazette"	Chittagong ...	800	
16	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca ...	1,200	23rd ditto.
17	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	885	21st ditto.
18	"Faridpur Hitaishini"	Faridpur ...	.....	
19	"Garíb"	Dacca ...	3,000	
20	"Grambásí"	Uluberia ...	800	22nd ditto.
21	"Gaurab"	Ditto ...	.....	
22	"Guru Charana"	Calcutta ...	.....	
23	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	300	
24	"Jagatbásí"	Calcutta ...	750	
25	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore ...	508	
26	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	350	
27	"Navavibhákar Sádháraní"	Calcutta ...	600	24th ditto.
28	"Pratikár"	Berhampore ...	600	21st ditto.
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh"	Kakinía, Rungpore ...	205	
30	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	19th ditto.
31	"Samaya"	Ditto ...	3,806	21st ditto.
32	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ...	4,000	22nd ditto.
33	"Sansodhiní"	Chittagong ...	800	
34	"Sakti"	Dacca ...	.....	18th ditto.
35	"Santi"	Calcutta ...	3,722	
36	"Saráswat Patra"	Dacca ...	300	
37	"Som Prakásh"	Calcutta ...	1,000	24th ditto.
38	"Srímanta Saudagár"	Ditto ...	.....	
39	"Sudhakar"	Ditto ...	.....	21st ditto.
40	"Sulabha Samáchár o Kusadaha" ...	Ditto ...	800	21st ditto.
41	"Sulabh Samvád"	Ditto ...	.....	22nd ditto.
42	"Surabhi o Patáka"	Chandernagore ...	700	20th ditto.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	Daily.			
43	"Dainik o Samáchár Chandriká" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	24th, 25th and 27th February 1890.
44	"Samvád Prabhákar"	Ditto ...	800	21st, 22nd and 24th to 27th ditto.
45	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	300	21st and 24th to 27th ditto.
46	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ...	Ditto ...	500	
	ENGLISH AND BENGALI.			
	Weekly.			
47	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca ...	.....	24th February 1890.
	HINDI.			
	Monthly.			
48	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Sámachár Patrika."	Darjeeling ...	20	
49	"Kshatriya Pratiká"	Patna ...	200	
	Weekly.			
50	"Aryávarta"	Calcutta ...	1,500	22nd ditto.
51	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ...	.....	
52	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,653	20th ditto.
53	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto ...	500	24th ditto.
54	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto ...	4,500	
55	"Hindi Samáchár"	Bhagulpore ...	1,000	
	PERSIAN.			
	Weekly.			
56	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	Calcutta ...	250	21st ditto.
	URDU.			
	Weekly.			
57	"Aftal Alum Arrah"	Arrah ...	300	
58	"Akhbar Tusdiq-i-Hind"	Calcutta ...	.....	
59	"Anis"	Patna ...	.....	
60	"Gauhur"	Calcutta ...	196	20th ditto.
61	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar"	Behar ...	150	
62	"Al Punch"	Bankipore ...	.....	17th ditto.
63	"Urdu Guide Darussaltanat" ...	Calcutta ...	340	21st ditto.
64	"Raisul-Akhbari-Moorshidabad" ...	Murshidabad ...	.....	
	URIYA.			
	Monthly.			
65	"Asha"	Cuttack ...	.....	
66	"Taraka and Subhavártá" ...	Ditto ...	.....	
67	"Pradíp"	Ditto ...	.....	
68	"Samyabadi"	Ditto ...	.....	
	Weekly.			
69	"Dipaka"	Cuttack ...	.....	8th ditto.
70	"Utkal Dípiká"	Ditto ...	444	8th ditto.
71	"Samvad Váhika"	Balasore ...	205	6th ditto.
72	"Urya and Navasamvád"	Ditto ...	600	5th ditto.
	PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.			
	BENGALI.			
	Fortnightly.			
73	"Silchar"	Silchar ...	500	10th ditto.
	Weekly.			
74	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	450	

II.—Home Administration.

(a)—*Police.*

THE *Cháruvártá*, of the 17th February, says that a number of thieves have made their appearance in the villages of Bowlai, Patsha, Tarpásá Battis, Jasodal, and the neighbouring places within the Kisoregunge sub-division of the Mymensing district, and that the corrupt and inefficient inferior police officers have not been able to check them. It is hoped that the worthy Inspector Baboo will adopt some severe measure for putting down the evil.

CHARUVARTA, Feb. 17th, 1890.

Thieves in the Kisoregunge sub-division of the Mymensingh district.

2. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 18th February, complains that gambling is extensively practised at Sutragar, Sahapara and other places in the Santipore thana. The local police sub-inspector should look sharp.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI, Feb. 18th, 1890.

Gambling in the Santipore thana.

3. The *Bangabási*, of the 22nd February, referring to the employment of Major Ramsay, of the Bengal Police, in the work of improving the condition of the village chowkidars, says that the more Government is exerting itself in this direction, the more worthless is the chowkidari service becoming. Major Ramsay will do well to investigate the causes of the increasing inefficiency of the chowkidari service.

BANGABASI, Feb. 22nd, 1890.

The chowkidari service.

4. The same paper says that the villages of Bhandora, Chitholia, and Dogachi in the district of Pubna have been infested with robbers for years past. On the night of the 6th February last, the daroga of the Pubna thana himself, and his men, while returning from an investigation, were attacked and severely beaten by a gang of robbers.

BANGABASI.

Thefts in the district of Pubna.

5. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 24th February, is astonished to find that it has become necessary at this hour of the day for the *Indian Churchman* to prove to the European community the impropriety of being present at any amusement in which dancing girls appear. The attention of the Police is drawn in this connection to the all but naked pictures posted on walls in this city by a certain English Theatrical Company. The little covering in the pictures only serves to show the female figure to greater advantage.

ARYA DARPAN, Feb. 24th, 1890.

Obscene posters in the streets of Calcutta.

6. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 24th February, regrets that the Lady Dufferin Fund is being scandalised in the North-Western Provinces, at the hands of police officers and other Government officials, by the highhanded way in which they are raising subscriptions for it. When the police has put its hand in the matter, it will be no wonder if even such a sacred and laudable movement is disgraced.

DACCA GAZETTE Feb. 24th, 1890.

The Police and the Lady Dufferin Fund.

7. The *Navavibhákar Sádháraní*, of the 24th February, referring to the petition of Churamani Chakravarti, of village Parshampur, in the outpost of Pursura, in thana Jehanabad, district Hughli, representing that a proper enquiry was not made by the local police into the death of the petitioner's brother, whose body was found floating in a tank, observes—

NAVAVIBHAKAR SADHARANI, Feb. 24th, 1890.

An untraced murder in the Jehanabad sub-division of the Hughli district.

It is strange that the police, which is so hard upon people guilty of petty offences, made no proper enquiry into the above case, and that the District Magistrate too did not take much notice of the matter when the fact was represented to him. Now that a petition has been submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor, a proper investigation of the case is likely to be made.

The petitioner's prayer that the case should be enquired into by some other police, and not by the local police which has already formed an opinion on the case, is a reasonable one and ought to be granted.

(*b*)—*Working of the Courts.*

CHARUVARTA Feb. 17th, 1890.

Baboo Sasibhusan Sen, Munsif of Sherepore, in the district of Mymensingh.

8. A correspondent of the *Cháruvártá*, of the 17th February, says that he is astonished at the conduct of Baboo Sasibhusan Sen, Munsif of Sherepore in the district of Mymensingh. The Munsif does not hesitate to use fouler language towards the witnesses than even the police officers do. Only the other day, he gave authority to the decree-holder, in the case of Braja Sundar Bhaumik *vs.* Harakumar Chaudhuri, to enter the zenana of the judgment-debtor for the purpose of seizing his moveable property in execution of the decree. And again on the affidavit of the former he gave him the same power in respect to the zenana of a friend of the judgment-debtor, as it was suspected that some of the latter's property was concealed in his friend's house. There is no law or ruling that the correspondent is aware of which does not warn a Judge against such whimsical conduct as empowering anybody to enter the zenana of a judgment-debtor for the purpose of seizing his property. And nothing can be more insulting to a gentleman than to have his zenana forced into by the lower officials of a court. It seems the Munsif is ignorant of the law, and it is a disgrace to the University that it confers the degree of B.L. on such men. The Munsif never takes the trouble to open his law-books or to read the papers of a case.

The people of Sherepore are in a state of fear because their honour is not safe in the hands of a Munsif like Baboo Sasibhusan.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI, Feb. 18th, 1890.

An Additional Subordinate Judge for Burdwan.

9. The *Burdwan Sanjívaní*, of the 18th February, says that as the work in the Court of the Subordinate Judge of Burdwan is too heavy for one officer, however hardworking he may be, Government should remove the inconvenience of the suitors by appointing an Additional Subordinate Judge in that Court.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA, Feb. 20th, 1890.

The case of Duncan King.

10. The *Surabhi-o-Patáká*, of the 20th February, says that Eurasians, like Duncan King, conduct themselves very haughtily and frequently commit murder. These murders cannot be regarded as deliberate. They are to be attributed to impetuosity of temper generated by pride. And the infliction of adequate punishment is the only means by which these murders can be stopped. But the punishment which has been inflicted upon Duncan King, though severer than what is ordinarily inflicted in such cases, cannot be regarded as an adequate punishment.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA.

Mr. Luson in Jessore.

11. The same paper has shown, in its previous issues, how Mr. Luson is sending people to hajut by issuing warrants against them for petty offences. As a result of this, the *hajut* has become quite overcrowded. The Sub-divisional Medical Officer and the Court Sub-Inspector have brought this fact to the notice of Mr. Luson, but he has taken no notice of it. In the intense cold of January, the prisoners were not even furnished with blankets, and the roof of the hajut being leaky, they had to stand heavy showers. All this made no impression on the Christian heart of Mr. Luson. The name of Shiraj-ud-doulah is written in dark characters in history, because he showed no sign of pity or compunction when he heard of the Black Hole massacre. But here is a Christian Magistrate near the metropolis of British India, who takes no pity upon persons, who are only accused and not convicted

of offences, when he sees them suffering from cold and exposed to showers of rain. Cannot one say after this that the scenes of the *Nil Darpan* drama are being re-enacted?

While Mr. Luson shows the utmost eagerness to issue warrants in petty cases instituted by the planters, he shows the utmost indifference when charges of a most serious nature are brought by the ryots against the planters. Can one say after this that Mr. Luson holds the balance of justice even? One cannot help saying that anarchy reigns supreme in Jhenida. The writer gives the following case to illustrate the way in which justice is being administered by Mr. Luson:—

A poor ryot named Kala Arjun refused to accept advances for indigo cultivation. A few days after his refusal the factory people came to his house at midnight and used threats. Half an hour after this his house was on fire, and it was soon reduced to ashes. The next morning some factory people came to him, and, making him an offer of money, requested him to charge his neighbours with having set fire to his house. He refused to do this, and charged the factory people with the offence.

But Mr. Luson did not believe the statements of Arjun and placed implicit faith in the statement of the planter and his men, who said that Arjun had accepted advances for indigo cultivation.

It is a matter of regret that such things should be done so near the metropolis and within the jurisdiction of Mr. Smith, and under the administration of Sir Steuart Bayley, and no notice should be taken of them. The writer is sorry for this, because he has great respect for Sir Steuart Bayley and Mr. Smith.

12. The *Samaya*, of the 21st February, says that the sentence of three months' rigorous imprisonment passed on each of those natives who beat certain English soldiers at Dum-Dum appears to be very severe, considering that the convicting Magistrate, Mr. Forbes, himself declared in his decision that they had beaten the soldiers under provocation. The sentence passed in this case contrasts strikingly with the sentence of a fine of 10 rupees passed against one of the riotous soldiers of the Barrackpore Cantonment by the Sub-divisional Officer of Serampore. This making of race distinctions in the dispensation of justice is a great disgrace to the English Government.

SAMAYA, Feb. 21st, 1890.

The Dum-Dum and Serampore affray cases.

13. The *Samvád Purnachandrodaya*, of the 21st February, suggests that now that Mr. Marsden is going on furlough, and will, on his return, probably succeed Mr. Broughton in the Administrator-Generalship, Government can conveniently effect a revision of the offices of the two city Magistrates. There is no necessity of maintaining the present division of the town for police purposes. There should be one Chief Magistrate on the present salary of the post, and he should be assisted by a Deputy Magistrate on a salary of Rs. 600 per month. This will effect a saving of nearly eight thousand rupees annually, and will not inconvenience the public in any way. The post of Chief Magistrate has never been given to a native except on one occasion when Mr. Amir Ali was temporarily appointed to the post. And even then Mr. Amir Ali was not empowered to try European offenders. Perhaps this is due to the crime of colour. But Government will now do well to set aside all such considerations, and to appoint Syed Ameer Hossein as Chief Presidency Magistrate. And if that gentleman is objected to on the ground of his not being a barrister, a competent native barrister should be appointed. The post should not be the monopoly of Europeans. And then a Deputy Magistrate, as suggested above, and as was recommended by the Finance Committee, may be appointed to assist him.

SAMVAD PURNACHANDRODAYA, Feb. 21st, 1890.

The Calcutta Magistracy.

BANGABASI, Feb. 22nd, 1890.

Two trials in the present Criminal Sessions of the High Court.

14. The *Bangabási*, of the 22nd February, in comparing the sentences passed on Duncan King with that passed on Guiram Bagdi at the present Sessions of the High Court, says that the sentence passed on King may or may not be inadequate; but there is no doubt that the sentence passed on Guiram was inordinately severe. The crime for which Guiram has been punished is one which any one in this country will commit under circumstances similar to those in which Guiram found himself placed. An attempt should be made to get the heavy punishment passed upon this unfortunate man lightened.

SANJIVANI, Feb. 22nd, 1890.

The trial of Duncan King.

15. The *Sanjívaní*, of the 22nd February, has the following on the sentence passed on Duncan King:—

It is within the memory of every one that only two years ago Mr. Justice Norris sentenced a man to seven years' rigorous imprisonment for the offence of having stolen ducks; and on the day preceding that on which King was tried, a man who had committed a murder under circumstances of grave provocation, that is to say, for the attempt made by the murdered men to ravish the murderer's wife, was punished by Mr. Justice Norris with rigorous imprisonment for ten years. And the self-same Judge passed upon Duncan King the nominal sentence of a year's rigorous imprisonment in the face of the provision in the Penal Code for punishing the offences with which this European stood charged with ten years' imprisonment or transportation for life. Mercy was shown to the accused owing to his youth, and he was given the benefit of a doubt to the effect that the evidence did not make it clear that he had unsheathed his sword-stick for striking the victim. Were not applications for mercy made to the same Judge on several previous occasions on the ground of the extreme youth of those he had convicted? And did His Lordship accede to those prayers? Moreover, it was clear from the evidence that King thrust his sword through the opening in the door, and that the durwan who stood behind it resisting the culprit and his associates in their attempt to force their way into the house was killed by the stroke. And yet the Judge gave him the benefit of the doubt that he did not probably unsheath his sword till he found it necessary to use it in self-defence. But this was pure guess-work on His Lordship's part, as there was nothing in the evidence to warrant this supposition. The plea of self-defence cannot be sustained, because the durwan was not the aggressor, and simply attempted to prevent the men from entering his master's house. A struggle ensued, and the men outside the house finding themselves pressed by the mob thrust the sword through the opening in the door either to frighten away the durwan or to strike him.

So, again, the Judge's surmise that King did not know whether anybody was standing behind the door also falls to the ground. It is also clear that the door was not bolted, for then King would have found no opening for passing his sword. Bearing these facts in mind no one can deny that, if the widow of the durwan had been represented at the trial by an able counsel like Mr. Gasper, the Judge's doubts and surmises would have been met by the explanations given above. And, lastly, in a place like Calcutta, King was under no necessity of taking a sword-stick with him when he left his house. And in spite of these considerations King has been punished with imprisonment for one year only.

In reading what fell from the Bench in the trial of this case, one cannot help feeling that His Lordship did his best to discover pleas and opportunities for dealing leniently with the prisoner. It is greatly to be desired that Judges should season justice with mercy, but it is also desirable that they should do so without distinction of caste and creed.

The attempt made by the European trading community on behalf of King have thus been crowned with success for they have gained their point.

16. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 24th February, contrasting the respective circumstances under which murders were committed by Duncan King and Guiram Bagdi, and the very unequal sentences passed on them, says that if such partiality as has been shown to King be shown by a Judge of the High Court, what wonder that similar things shall take place in the mofussil.

SAR SUDHANIDHI, Feb. 24th, 1890.

Cases of Duncan King and Guiram Bagdi at the late Criminal Sessions.

17. The *Navavibhákar Sádháraní*, of the 24th February, makes the following observations on the decisions passed in some of the cases in the present Sessions of the Calcutta High Court:—

NAVAVIBHAKAR SADHARANI, Feb. 24th, 1890.

Two trials by Mr. Justice Norris.

(1) The sentence passed on Mr. Allen, Managing Proprietor of the *Pioneer*, should have been more severe. The *Pioneer* has greatly harassed Captain Hearsey, and has thus compelled him to spend a great deal of money. If Mr. Allen had been sincerely sorry for the attack he made upon Captain Hearsey, he would have apologised to him long before. He apologised to the Captain only when he saw that there was no other means of escape for him.

(2) The sentence passed on the soldier O'Hara, of the Dum-Dum Cantonment, is a right one. O'Hara shot down an innocent man like a dog. The writer is opposed to capital punishment; but so long as that punishment is not abolished, Judges must inflict it on offenders like O'Hara.

(3) The decision passed in the case of Duncan King is not satisfactory. Mr. Duncan King set out with a few friends at 12 o'clock at night for mouse-hunting as he would have it. But instead of a mouse he killed an innocent man. King is almost as guilty as O'Hara; nay, rightly considered, his guilt was even greater than that of O'Hara, for he is a more educated man than O'Hara, and comes of more respectable parentage than the latter. If King, when pursued by the men in the streets, had gently asked the durwan for shelter, the durwan would have gladly taken him into the house. But instead of doing this he attempted to forcibly enter a stranger's house at 12 o'clock at night, and when the keeper of the house opposed him he plunged a sword into his breast. When he saw the man fall down senseless, he did not, as a man of his position should have done, procure medical aid for him or inform the police of the unfortunate accident, but ran away like a base murderer. A sentence of a year's imprisonment is too light for such a man. Mr. Justice Norris declared that Mr. King's inevitable remorse for his slaughter of an innocent man was sufficient punishment for him. But upon that line of reasoning all corporal punishment would be superfluous. Nor can this principle of Mr. Justice Norris be very well reconciled with the sentence passed by him on Guiram Bagdi who killed a man under grave provocation. Duncan King killed an innocent man without the least provocation and Guiram killed, in a sudden fit of passion, a master who had attempted the chastity of his wife. If,

therefore, one year's imprisonment is sufficient for King, should not a much lighter punishment have sufficed for Guiram? But instead of dealing out punishments on this principle, the impartial Judge sentenced Guiram to ten years' imprisonment and King to imprisonment for one year.

DAIWIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, Feb. 24th, 1890.

O'Hara and the widow of his victim.

18. The *Daiwik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 24th February, is glad to notice that Mr. Justice Norris expressed sympathy with the helpless widow of Selim, the man who was murdered at Dum-Dum, and that the Jury which tried Selim's murderer have of their own accord subscribed liberally for her maintenance. The writer will also be glad to hear that the men of the regiment to which the culprit belonged are also raising funds for the same purpose. He also requests Sir Steuart Bayley to succour the poor helpless widow. In conclusion the writer says that the public would have been glad if some sentence short of that of death had been passed on the murderer O'Hara.

DAIWIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, Feb. 27th 1890.

The cases of Guiram and Duncan King.

19. The same paper, of the 27th February, says that some people are expressing dissatisfaction with the sentences passed respectively on Guiram, who murdered a man under grave provocation, and on King, who murdered a man for no offence. The common belief is that justice has not been done in the case of King. The Judge should not have been moved by the report that subscriptions were being raised by the Defence Association, or by the repentence of the culprit. Speaking for himself, the writer is not sorry at the sentence passed on King, but he is really sorry that the sentence on Guiram has been so heavy. The writer is against capital punishment, and would have been glad to see O'Hara transported for life instead of being hanged. But he cannot find fault with the proceedings in O'Hara's case.

(d)—Education.

CHARUVARTA, Feb. 17th, 1890.

The head-master of a pathsala in the Mymensingh district.

20. The *Chárubártá*, of the 17th February, says that the head-master of the Baikunthapore pathsala in the Mymensingh district, Govinda Chandra Roy, has not yet made any use of the sum of Rs. 50 or Rs. 60 which was paid to him by the Departmental Sub-Inspector for purchasing the furniture required for the pathsala. The boys are greatly inconvenienced for want of furniture. The higher authorities should enquire into the matter.

SAKTI, Feb. 18th, 1890.

An Assistant Inspector for the Dacca Circle.

21. The *Sakti*, of the 18th February, says that when the Dacca Circle had a European for its Inspector of Schools, it had also an Assistant Inspector to assist the Inspector. But since Baboo Dina Nath Sen has been made Inspector, there has been no Assistant Inspector in the Dacca Circle. This has caused great inconvenience to the Inspector who gets little assistance from the Deputy Inspector or the Mahomedan Assistant Inspector, the former being wholly occupied with the work of the Board, and the duty of the latter being only to inspect Mahomedan schools. Under the circumstances it has become absolutely necessary to appoint an Assistant Inspector in the Dacca Circle.

DACCA PRAKASH, Feb. 23rd, 1890.

Selection of text-books by Baboo Dina Nath Sen.

22. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 23rd February, says that Baboo Dina Nath Sen, Inspector of Schools, Dacca, has included in the list of text-books for the schools in his Circle all books written by his friends and relatives which he could possibly include in it. This was also done in previous years, but in those years the books were named as alternative text-books, and could therefore command no very extensive sale. But this year these books have been named as sole text-books. In order to show the quality of these books, the

writer quotes the following passage from one of them which will show how faulty the writing is—

"এদেশের প্রায় সর্ব্বত্রই বট বৃক্ষ দেখিতে পাওয়া যায়। বৃক্ষের যেমন প্রকাণ্ড আকার এমন আর কোন বৃক্ষই নয়, বড় একটী বৃক্ষ দূর হইতে দেখিলে বোধ হয় যেন, বহু বিটপী পূর্ণ একটী মনোহর উদ্যান শোভা পাইতেছে।"

And this is the book which Baboo Dina Nath has selected from among a thousand books and named as a text-book in addition to the *Bodhodaya* which had been selected by Government, and could not therefore be struck off by him. Why make poor Bengali boys read two books where one would have sufficed? If Government really feels it its duty to educate poor boys, it should consider whether the charge of the supervision of education should be entrusted into the hands of such a man, or the education of the boys will greatly suffer.

NAVAVIBHAKAR SADHARANI, Feb. 24th, 1890.

Sir Alfred Croft and education in Bengal.

23. The *Navavibhákar Sádháraní*, of the 24th February, says that the Education Department stands in need of considerable improvement. But Sir Alfred Croft, who has no thought to bestow upon that point, is only seeking how he will retard the progress of high education in this country. He has made a rule for the renewing of Government grants every three years instead of every five years as before. Since the establishment of the District Boards, Government gives grants only to higher class schools outside of municipal limits and to all classes of schools within those limits. But in spite of the relief thus given to Government, Sir Alfred is systematically diminishing the grants, and is insisting upon each school having only a very small number of free and half-free students. All this shows that Sir Alfred Croft at any rate, if not Government itself, desires the abolition of high education. It is well known that villagers are, as a rule, too poor to be able to pay proper school fees for the education of their sons. The existence of village schools must, therefore, depend upon Government aid. The writer knows from personal experience that many village schools cannot go on even with a monthly Government aid of 25 or 30 rupees. And such schools will soon cease to exist if their grants are not increased. Government has now ceased to grant money in aid of buildings for schools and for the purchase of school furniture. But while economy of this kind is being enforced in the matter of grants, much money is being unnecessarily wasted. The separation of Chota Nagpore from the Presidency Circle and of Orissa from the Western Circle will dispense with the cost of maintaining an Assistant Inspector in the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions and of the occasional visits of Inspectors to those divisions. The Assistant Inspector in the one division and the Joint Inspector in the other are both able men who can well be entrusted with the charge of those divisions. In the same way Chittagong can be separated from Dacca. Some Inspectors of Schools have recommended the separation of Orissa from the Western Circle, but no one can say why that recommendation has not been accepted.

KASIPORE NIBASI Falgun, 1296 B.S.

The Burrisal zillah school.

24. The *Kasipore Nibási*, of the first fortnight of Falgun, is glad to hear that the Lieutenant-Governor has vetoed the proposal of the Director of Public Instruction to transfer the Burrisal zillah school from Government management to a private gentleman. The school has already suffered in consequence of the rumour that it will be so transferred. And the decision of Sir Steuart Bayley in regard to it should now remove all fears on this point. The Municipal Committee of the place has passed a resolution to the effect that the abolition of this school will seriously injure the cause of education in Burrisal. And in passing this resolution, the Municipal Committee has given expression to the opinion of the whole Burrisal community.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI, Feb. 18th, 1890.

The Burdwan District Board.

25. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 18th February, says that in appointing members for the Burdwan District Board Government should select at least four representatives from the mofussil thannas. Unless the members of the District Board have experience of the mofussil they will be able to do no good. That no attention has yet been paid to the want of roads in Raina is probably because no representative of that thana has up to this time sat on the District Board.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

Realisation of fees from carters by municipalities.

26. A correspondent of the same paper complains that the Santipore Municipaiity realised registration fees from several carters of Ranaghat although they held licenses from the Ranaght Municipality. On hearing this the Ranaghat Municipality has decided to realise fees from carters who may come from Santipore. All this will affect trade.

SAHACHAR, Feb. 19th, 1890.

The Durbhunga temple affair.

27. The *Sahachar*, of the 19th February, says that the speech delivered by the Maharaja of Durbhunga at the meeting lately held at Bankipore to protest against the demolition of the Mahavirjee temple is an indication that Sir Steuart Bayley will do justice in the temple affair by adequately punishing the offenders and by permitting the reconstruction of the temple.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA, Feb. 20th, 1890.

A non-official Chairman for the Calcutta Municipality.

28. The *Surabhi-o-Patáká*, of the 20th February, strongly supports the proposal that a non-official Municipal Commissioner should be appointed to succeed Sir Henry Harrison as Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality. The Calcutta Municipality should be the model of self-government in this country. But the squabbles which frequently occur between its official Chairman and its non-official Commissioners render self-government a delusion. In order that self-government may be deserving of the name, the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality should be a completely independent officer. It is hoped that Sir Steuart Bayley will attend to this matter.

SAMAYA, Feb. 21st, 1890.

Mr. Bolton as Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality.

29. The *Samaya*, of the 21st February, referring to the rumour that Mr. Bolton will succeed Sir Henry Harrison as Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality, says that the public do not like Mr. Bolton, who greatly oppressed the Maharani of Tikari, and showed utter indifference to the distress of the people of the Sunderbuns. He will not be able to pull well with the Commissioners. It is not easy to see why he should be appointed to the post in preference to Mr. Cotton.

SAMAYA.

The temple affair.

30. The same paper agrees with the Maharaja of Durbhunga in thinking that when Government is sorry for the demolition of the Mahavirjee temple, and when it is conducting an enquiry into the matter, the public should make no comments on the case till Government's decision in the matter is known. The alleged proposal of Government to reconstruct the temple will be received with joy by the Durbhunga people. But Government should not punish the public by reconstructing the temple at their cost. It should have the temple reconstructed at the cost of the offending officer.

GRAMVASI, Feb. 22nd, 1890.

The Hooghly Road Cess Office.

31. The *Grámvási*, of the 22nd February, says that it has often spoken of the mismanagement existing in the Hooghly Road Cess Office. The want of a sufficient number of officers is probably the cause of this mismanagement. The Road Cess Department has a large income. An increase in the number of its officers may probably result in a further increase of its income, and will certainly put a stop to the present mismanagement.

32. It appears to the *Navavibhákar Sádhárani*, of the 24th February, from the speech delivered by the Maharaja of Durbhunga at the meeting recently held at Bankipore to protest against the demolition of the Mahavirjee temple, that Government has already come to the decision that Mr. Beadon has done a very wrong thing, and the offenders should be adequately punished. There can be no doubt that Mr. Beadon has acted in a very highhanded manner.

NAVAVIBHAKAR SADHARANI, Feb. 24th, 1890.

The Durbhunga temple affair.

33. The same paper, referring to the rumour that Mr. Lee will be appointed Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality, says that, considering that the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality has to perform a very responsible duty, and has to come into contact with people of all classes, none but a man of an affable disposition should be appointed to that post. People were so late in finding out Sir Henry Harrison, because he was outwardly very affable.

NAVAVIBHAKAR SADHARANI.

The successor of Sir Henry Harrison.

The rule that no one who is not a civilian should be appointed to the post of Municipal Chairman of Calcutta should be abolished. An accomplished man may be had for the salary which is attached to the post.

34. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 25th February, says, in reference to the proposal of Government to supply the people of Howrah with filtered water from Calcutta, that the Calcutta Municipality has no right to sell filtered water until it has provided every individual in the amalgamated municipality with a sufficient quantity, and over and above this has also supplied the parts of the Suburbs not included in the new municipal area with any quantity it can spare.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, Feb. 25th, 1890.

Water-supply to the people of Howrah.

The writer is in favour of the alternative scheme proposed by Government for getting the water from the Saraswati. The water of this stream is pure and wholsome, and it is not absolutely necessary that the residents of every municipality should drink filtered water like those of Calcutta.

The Lieutenant-Governor and the Sanitary Commissioner have expressed themselves greatly dissatisfied with the Commissioners and the local officers of Howrah for not reclaiming the existing bustees within that Municipality. This will only have the effect of bringing increased pressure upon the Commissioners. But they must bow to the order of the rulers.

35. The *Bangala Exchange Gazette*, of the 25th February, draws the attention of the Calcutta Municipal authorities to the neglected state of the public squares in the native part of the town, and suggests that each of these squares should be placed under a person possessing some knowledge of botany, and that some respectable people in the neighbourhood of each square be requested to undertake the duty of supervising it and reporting that it is kept in good order. As one instance, the writer brings forward the following complaints in regard to Beadon Square :—

BANGALA EXCHANGE GAZETTE, Feb. 25th, 1890.

The public squares in the native quarter of Calcutta.

(1) The gates of the square being left open all night, great injury is done to trees and plants by cattle; and the place is used as a regular resort by the bad characters of the town in the depth of night.

(2) The square is not provided with a sufficient number of seats, and the few seats that are kept are in a sad state of disrepair.

(3) There is no one to forbid cricket parties to play there, and thereby cause injury to the plants.

(4) The plants are not carefully and regularly watered, and the trees are not taken proper care of.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR, Feb. 27th, 1890

36. The *Samvád Prabhákar*, of the 27th February, has nothing to say against the selection of Mr. Lee for appointment to the Chairmanship of the Calcutta Municipality. In choosing him Sir Steuart Bayley must have carefully considered his fitness for the post. But it should be noted that Mr. Lee does not possess the reputation which Sir Henry Harrison brought from Midnapore to Calcutta.

Mr. Lee as Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI, Feb. 18th, 1890.

37. The *Burdwan Sanjívaní*, of the 18th February, says that the Tarkesvar Railway Company which is making a good profit proposes to sell the railway line to an English Company, and to return the shareholders their money. The native shareholders should strongly protest against the proposal, which, if carried out, will create the impression that it is the intention of Englishmen not to admit natives to a share of their profit, and thus prevent them in future from taking part in any enterprise started by Englishmen. Government should enquire into the matter.

The Tarkesvar Railway.

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-KUSHDAHA, Feb. 21st, 1890.

38. The *Sulabh Samáchár-o-Kusádaha*, of the 21st February, makes the following complaints in connection with the steamer service between Nayapara and Magura :—

The steamer service between Nayapara and Magura.

(1) Owing to a shoal in the river, the steamer can run up to Binodpore only.

(2) The passengers are greatly inconvenienced by being landed from, and taken into, the steamer in a small boat, which is generally overcrowded.

(3) The steamer has become so rickety that it frequently gets out of order while in motion.

(4) The steamer, though so timed as to catch the local train, is, for the above reason, frequently delayed, and the passengers consequently miss the train.

(5) The steamer being loaded with goods, the passengers have to remain standing for want of room.

BANGABASI, Feb. 22nd, 1890.

39. The *Bangabásí*, of the 22nd February, says that the road from Satragachi to Mohiari, in the district of Howrah, becomes impassable in the rainy season, and that representations to the Board for its metalling have produced no effect.

The road from Satragachi to Mohiari in the Howrah district.

BANGABASI.

40. The same paper says that the want of a road is greatly felt in the villages of Bangram and Angbali, in the Jessore district, and that the Board pays no heed to their prayer for the removal of this complaint.

Want of road in the Jessore district.

BANGABASI.

41. The same paper says that the road from Gya to Arangabad *vid* Rafigunge is not regularly repaired. The District Board should attend to the matter.

The road from Gya to Arangabad.

BANGABASI.

42. The same paper says that the road from Ramnagar to Khalispore, in the district of Nuddea, stands in need of repairs. The writer will be happy to see the authorities taking note of the matter.

The road from Ramnagar to Khalispore, in the Nuddea district.

SOM PRAKASH, Feb. 24th, 1890.

43. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 24th February, says that no canal in the Bengal Presidency, except the Calcutta Canal, is profitable to Government. The Calcutta canal brought in last year a profit of two lakh and 75 thousand rupees

The irrigation canals.

to Government. But this canal is only used for purposes of nagivation, and serves no useful purpose so far as cultivation is concerned. The canals of the major irrigation branch do not even bring in an income which can cover the cost of their maintenance. In 1888-89 the income of those canals fell short of their expenditure by one lakh of rupees. Besides this, 23 lakhs and 33 thousand rupees had to be paid from the Imperial Exchequer as interest on the capital laid out in their construction and purchase. Thus the people had to pay 25 lakhs of rupees last year for these canals. Government counted upon so large a profit from these canals that it paid a bonus to the East India Irrigation and Canal Company in addition to the fair price of these canals. But all this hope of profit is disappointed.

The Orissa canals too do not bring in an income which can cover the cost of maintaining them. The proceeds of the Sarun canal, which was originally constructed for the benefit of the indigo-planters, involved a loss of Rs. 15,000 last year to Government.

(h)—General.

SAHACHAR Feb. 19th, 1890.

44. The *Sahachar*, of the 19th February, says that, although the actual income from salt and opium exceeds the estimated income this year by 80 lakhs of rupees, Government cannot see its way to repealing the income-tax. Burma is a useless and expensive burden. It appears from telegrams received from England that the Ministry propose to spend at least 50 lakhs of rupees every year on the construction of railways in Burma for commercial purposes, and poor India must anyhow find this money. Again, Sir Robert Sandeman has quietly established English dominion in the Jhob Valley. Attempts are also being made to bring the wild tribes inhabiting the country between Chittagong and Burma under English subjection. All this is to be done at the cost of India, because the English merchants count upon extensive commercial transactions in that region, and hope to enrich themselves by carrying those transactions as far up as South China. But what profit will India derive from this extension of English commerce? It will not even levy import duties on the goods which will be brought there, for the trade will be a perfectly free trade. And yet England must prove her loyalty to England by paying the cost of laying railways and maintaining troops and a military police in Burma. With a Finance Minister like Samuel Laing, India could have dispensed with the necessity of an income-tax; for under such a Finance Minister all improper expenditure would have ceased, and England would have been induced to bear her share of the expenditure of the Burmese war. But no such Finance Minister can be now had, and the question, therefore, assumes great importance whether or not some sort of control should not be placed over the financial administration of the country.

The financial administration of India.

The writer hears that a new Bishop will be appointed in Oudh. A Bishop has been already appointed in the Punjab, and another has been appointed in Burma, and the Bishop in Oudh will complete the mischief. The State Church in Ireland has been disestablished, and the State Church in Scotland and Wales is being protested against. The State Church in Ceylon has also been disestablished. And Mr. Gladstone is advocating the disestablishment of the English Church. Why should then Hindus and Mussulmans maintain a Christian Church in India for the benefit of Christians? While the English Government in India is maintaining a Church for the benefit of Christians, it is compelling Indians to educate themselves at their own cost, and this at a time when a proposal has been made in England for educating the English people at the cost of the State. If this is not abuse of power, what is? What would

Syud Ahmed and Company say to all this? This proposal for appointing a Bishop in Oudh shows how a Government over which the people have no control exercises its powers. The whole country asks with one voice whether the time has not come to ask Parliament for the natural rights of man in India.

SAMAYA, Feb 21st, 1890.

Frontier defences.

45. The *Samaya*, of the 21st February, must strongly protest against by the proposal to spend 40 crores of rupees on the fortification of the North-Western frontier. The assurance given by Sir Frederick Roberts that the interest on that sum would be covered by the saving which is to be effected by reduction in the number of English soldiers is of a delusive nature. It is certainly necessary to defend the country against foreign invasions. But why pour money like water when no enemy is to be seen anywhere? Besides, the most effective way of defending the country is to win the attachment of the Indians.

SAMAYA.

Mr. Luson.

46. The same paper says that, exasperated by the oppressions practised by the tea-planters, the ryots of Magura and Jhenidah resolved not to cultivate indigo, and submitted to Government a statement of their grievances. And by way of a reply to that representation, Government sent Mr. Luson to overawe them. Mr. Luson is acting in a way which will soon enable him to restore order in those sub-divisions. But he will achieve this result by utterly ruining the ryots.

The writer has great confidence in the impartiality of Sir Steuart Bayley, and he requests His Honour to transfer Mr. Luson without delay.

GRAMVASI, Feb. 22nd, 1890.

Sir Steuart Bayley and the outstill system.

47. The *Grámvási*, of the 22nd February, referring to the Resolution of Sir Steuart Bayley, directing the gradual abolition of the outstill system from all districts in Bengal in spite of the certain fall in revenue in consequence of such abolition, observes as follows:—"Blessed are you Sir Steuart Bayley! It is men like you who are really blessed. A Resolution so noble could only emanate from a heart which like yours deeply sympathises with the people. May the King of Kings shower his choicest blessings upon you! We know not how else to bless you."

SANJIVANI, Feb. 22nd, 1890.

Appointments in the Opium Department.

48. The *Sanjívaní*, of the 22nd February, says, in reference to the present system of making appointments in the Opium Department, that the natives do not want that every fourth vacancy in this department should be given to them by favour. They too want to be admitted to the competitive examination which is held for Europeans and Eurasians. If this is done, and if even a single native does not succeed in getting an appointment by passing the competitive examination, no one will be able to accuse Government of violating the Queen's proclamation. What the natives want is not favour, but a strict fulfilment by Government of the solemn promises of Her Majesty.

SANJIVANI.

Some recent appointments to the Subordinate Executive Service.

49. The same paper has the following on some appointments recently made to the Subordinate Executive Service on the nomination system:—

It was thought that under the system of competitive examination worthless Deputy Magistrates like the Ghatiram Deputy of the *Nildarpan* drama would disappear from the service. But Sir John Edgar has declared that the examination system will not be given effect to until the registered candidates have been provided for. And relying on the sound judgment of Sir John, it was expected that he would not be influenced by considerations of friendship or any consideration of that kind in making appointments to the Subordinate Executive Service, and that merit would be his only consideration in making those appointments. But it is now seen that

back-door influence has played an important part in the making of two recent appointments to the Subordinate Executive Service. Baboo Chandi Charan Chatterji has been appointed through the influence of Mr. Eliot, the Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India, and Baboo Abhilash Chandra Mookerji, son of Rai Radhika Prasanna Mookerjee, Bahadur, Inspector of Schools, through the influence of Sir Alfred Croft. These two gentlemen, who have no University career to boast of, have been selected in supersession of a host of candidates, who are distinguished graduates of the Calcutta University. Nor have they deserved the posts by displaying efficiency of a remarkable kind in the Government service. Baboo Chandi Charan was an Inspector in the Meteorological Department, and Baboo Abhilash Chandra occupied the last post in the Bengali Translator's Office, a post which he had secured through the influence of his uncle, the late Baboo Rajkrishna Mookerjee. Any man with Baboo Abhilash Chandra's qualifications would have remained content with his late appointment. But, no, he is the son of Rai Radhika Prasanna Mookerjee, Bahadur, and he must have something better, and nothing less than a Deputy Magistrateship will suit the son of such an eminent father. Two eminent graduates are employed in the Bengali Translator's Office, namely, Baboo Narayan Chandra Bhattacharjya, M.A., Assistant Translator, and Baboo Haraprasad Shastri, M.A., the Bengal Librarian. But they were not selected for the Deputy Magistracy, because they had no influential patrons to back them. And Sir Alfred Croft found it worth his while to reclaim this jewel of a son of the Inspector of Schools, Presidency Circle, from the same office, and present him to the Chief Secretary to Government for appointment in the Executive Service. But whether or not these two gentlemen will be able to do the work upon which they have been employed still remains to be seen, and the writer will not be slow to give them their meed of praise, if they can deserve it by an efficient discharge of their duties. There would have been no ground for complaint if such favours had been shewn to members of the Mahomedan Society, for it is necessary to show such favours to them in order to encourage the Mahomedan community, who have fallen behind Hindus in the race for advancement, to ameliorate their condition. And it must be said to the credit of that community that not one of the officers selected from among them up to the present time has had a single complaint brought against him on the ground of want of ability or efficiency. But it is matter for regret that the same cannot be said of all the Hindus who have been so selected. A few months ago copies of some judgments passed by a Deputy Magistrate of Krishnagore fell into the hands of the writer, and he was astonished to find that the Deputy Magistrate's English composition was a disgrace to his degree of M. A. This gentleman is no other than the son of Baboo Braja Nath Lahiri, the Head Clerk in the Presidency College, who got his appointment through the influence of Mr. Tawney. When this gentleman joined his appointment at Krishnagore, he told people that in giving him the Deputy Magistracy, Sir John Edgar had expressed himself to the effect "he had at last appointed a really accomplished man to the service." It is to be feared therefore that malaria has made its attack upon this gentleman's acquirements as it makes its attacks upon people's health in Krishnagore. And it is necessary that he should be granted leave to recover his lost learning. Mr. Glazier, the Magistrate of the district, made the following remarks on this gentleman's English composition :—

"The depositions taken down by the Deputy Magistrate in this case are quite unintelligible. They convey no meaning. He should translate these papers into Bengali so that they may be explained to me by my peshkar." Nothing could be more disgraceful to an M.A. If the Baboo has any sense of honour he should at once send in his resignation or apply for

leave of absence for two or three years in order to learn better English from his patron and admirer, Mr. Tawney.

SANJIVANI, Feb. 22nd, 1890.

Appointment of Extra Assistant Commissioners in Assam.

50. The same paper says that Government should, in consideration of the responsibility attaching to the post of Extra Assistant Commissioners in Assam, take the greatest care in making appointments to that service. But its conduct in this respect has hitherto been the very opposite of what it should be. It has of late years shown itself extremely whimsical in this respect. In 1885 a European was appointed Extra Assistant Commissioner although competent natives were not wanting; and now Government seems to have taken to the system of filling up vacancies in that service by promotions from the rank of Sub-Deputies. Now Sub-Deputies are generally not very well educated men, few among them being able to write a few lines of English correctly. And even a clerk, Baboo Sarvananda Das, has been made an Extra Assistant Commissioner. The writer cannot take any exception to the appointment of this particular clerk, but Government should not resolve upon promoting clerks systematically to the Subordinate Judicial Service in consideration of the success which may have attended a particular promotion of this kind. There can be little objection to efficient Sub-Deputies being promoted to the Subordinate Judicial Service, if in granting such promotion such discretion is exercised as has been lately shown in Bengal by the Lieutenant-Governor. But it will be a great mistake to reserve the service for Sub-Deputies without discrimination.

The competitive examination system cannot be recommended for Assam, as the number of posts requiring to be filled up there each year is very few. But the scheme that suggests itself to the writer is this:—Let the names of graduates of the University be registered for these appointments, and when vacancies occur, let those among the registered candidates be selected who are found most eligible by education, character, and health. Or Government may, if it chooses, make the selections by competitive examinations.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

SAMAYA, Feb. 21st, 1890.

The Indian Railways Bill.

51. The *Samaya*, of the 21st February, makes the following remarks on the Indian Railways Bill:—

(1) It is desirable that the intermediate and third class carriages should be provided with water-closets like the third class carriages for females which are proposed to be provided with water-closets under the new law. It is said, and rightly, that if those carriages are provided with water-closets, the railway lines will be greatly fouled. But that evil will be nothing compared with the good which will result from the arrangement. No one's health will be affected by such fouling, and all traces of filth may be removed by so constructing the closets that the filth therefrom may fall directly on the railway lines. The fouling is not also likely to be so extensive as is apprehended. For it is well known that railway journeys bring on constipation of the bowels. The want of water-closets now causes great suffering to passengers who get a call of nature. Again the want of water-closets now compels the Railway Companies to stop their trains for a long time at intermediate stations, and that occasions pecuniary loss. The cost of providing water-closets will be trifling compared with the gain which will result from providing them.

(2) The time within which a passenger who has not been able to go in a train for want of room shall get back his fare by returning his ticket should be increased from three hours to one week. Suppose a woman buys a ticket, but cannot go in the train for which she buys it for want of room. Being a woman she will not perhaps have the courage to return the ticket herself that day, or the railway servants may cause the prescribed three hours to pass away in wrangling with her.

(3) The speed of the Indian trains which is very slow in comparison with that of railway trains in other countries should be increased.

VI.—Miscellaneous.

SAKTI, Feb. 18th, 1890.

The cheap literature scheme.

52. The *Sakti*, of the 18th February, says that it is improper to express any opinion on the mode in which the cheap literature scheme will be worked before any active steps have been taken in the matter. But it is quite fair to ask whether cheap literature means only school-books, or books for the general reader. A missionary paper informs the public that the aim of the Association will be to publish good cheap literature for the general public. It may be therefore supposed that the Association will not meddle with school-books. But the supposition is not perhaps quite correct. It is well known that when Mr. (now Sir Roper) Lethbridge was in the Education Department, the whole country was flooded with books of his composition, both English and Bengali. And if the new Association takes up a similar work under the patronage of the Lieutenant-Governor and the Director of Public Instruction, the result will no doubt be the same, namely, the native authors will have to give up their profession altogether. And if it manufactures school-books it will neither benefit the general public, nor help the cause of the higher literature of the country. Hence it is but natural to suppose that the Association will not meddle with school-books. But it is, on the other hand, difficult to believe that the English firm, who is the prime-mover in this matter, will be able to resist the temptation of taking to a lucrative business like the publication of school-books.

The writer thinks that the Association should give up the idea of producing English books. English books produced here will not be able to compete with English books got up in England. It should confine its efforts to encouraging able native writers to write in their own vernaculars. This will be beneficial in more ways than one. It will help the cause of higher education in the vernaculars by bringing good books into existence. It will help the cause of vernacular literature by opening up a field to able native authors in these hard times, and it will give plenty of good books to those who now idle away their time.

Mr. Beveridge has rightly said that there is in India a reading public, but not a book-buying public. This state of things will have to be changed. The new Association can change this state of things by establishing reading-rooms all over the country. The reading-rooms will teach people the right use of books; and when people will know how to use books they will begin to buy them.

This plan of going to work will surely ensure success to the project.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA, Feb. 20th, 1890.

Lord Lansdowne's residence in the Barrackpore Park.

53. The *Surabhi-o-Patáká*, of the 20th February, says that Lord Lansdowne has departed from the practice of all former Governors-General by spending three days instead of one in the Government House at Barrackpore. If this be owing to indisposition, there will be

nothing to say in the matter. Otherwise, the new practice must be strongly condemned. It is difficult to understand how the Viceroy will perform his work satisfactorily if he spends eight months in the year on the hills and three days every week in the Barrackpore Park during the remaining four months.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA. Feb. 20th, 1890.

The question of the successor of Sir Steuart Bayley.

54. The same paper says that some speak of Mr. Mackenzie, others of Sir Charles Elliott, and others again of Sir David Barbour, as the probable successor of Sir Steuart Bayley. The writer is for Mr. Mackenzie, who is a very able man, and has ably administered Central India without making any distinction of creed or colour. If merit is to decide the question, the decision must be in favour of Mr. Mackenzie.

SUDHAKAR, Feb. 21st, 1890.

A cow-killing case in Kushtea.

55. A correspondent of the *Sudhákar*, of the 21st February, says that Syed Oli-ulla, zemindar of Kushtea, having had occasion, on the 10th February last, to slaughter a cow, had the work done in a retired place far away from the habitations of the Hindu residents by one Meer Mahsun Ali of Saonta. But the Hindus took offence even at this, and held a meeting on the night following the Fateha ceremony, and passed a Resolution binding themselves not to admit to their company those Mahomedans who had taken part in the ceremony. They also went so far as to forbid the cloth merchants to hold any transactions with those Mahomedans. And the Hindu pleaders of the Munsif's Court declined to accept a case on behalf of Meer Mahsun Ali.

On this the Editor remarks that if his correspondent's report be true, the whole Mahomedan community, and the sensible among the Hindus, should rouse themselves to check this race animosity on the part of the Hindus. They should with one voice demand justice from Government. For repeated instances of oppression of the Mahomedans by the Hindus like the one related above will in the end compel the former to use violent means in self-defence.

SANJIVANI, Feb. 22nd, 1890.

The Lady Dufferin Fund.

56. Referring to the complaint of the Calcutta Branch of the Lady Dufferin Fund Committee that the townspeople are not properly encouraging the object of the fund, the *Sanjívaní*, of the 22nd February, says that if the Committee enquired into the cause of this want of sympathy of the Calcutta people, it would find that it is not the people who are so much to blame as the Committee itself. In counting upon the people's support the Committee should bear the following points in mind:—

(1) The female members of a respectable family in Bengal, rich or poor, Hindu or Mussulman are prevented by custom from availing themselves of lady doctors' advice in a hospital.

(2) It is absurd to expect that the middle class men of the city should take the lady doctors to their own houses for advice at the expense of Rs. 10 for a single visit, for that is the rate at which the lady doctors charge for their visits. Considering that the lady doctors are not, generally speaking, thoroughly well qualified, Rs. 10 for one visit is too high a fee.

(3) Native ladies can express themselves only in Bengali, whilst the lady doctors employed by the Committee are all Europeans ignorant of the vernaculars of the country. And so the patient has no means of making her medical adviser acquainted with the particulars of her malady.

In the Annual Report the Committee say that many respectable ladies, richly attired, came during the year to the hospital for treatment. But this is a wrong view of the matter, for there are women who can attire

themselves richly and yet not belong to respectable families. As a rule, only women of inferior classes come to the hospital for gratis advice. And the female members of a few very poor families may have also come to the hospital for such advice.

It is also hard to make out why the European lady doctors are given a higher place in the profession than their native compeers. In point of education, so far as that can be judged from the examination systems of England and of this country, the former are inferior to the latter. The report goes, however, that this distinction has been made between the two classes of lady doctors at the instigation Sir Benjamin Simpson, the Surgeon-General with the Government of India. And considering Sir Benjamin's conduct towards the Surbordinate Medical Service, the report is probably correct. There is also, no doubt, that most obnoxious question of race at the bottom. The native lady doctors have, in consequence, from a sense of honour, to maintain their fees on a par with those of the European members of the profession. And people are therefore completely deprived of the benefit they would have otherwise derived from their own lady doctors. Thus it will be seen that the townspeople are more interested in discouraging the movement than in encouraging it. It is strange, however, that the committee should dare to go against native interests under the presidency of none other than Mr. Cotton, the professed friend of the natives. And it is to be regretted that the Committee is showing greater persistence than ever in this policy under that gentleman. Mr. Cotton and his Committee are quite enthusiastic in their praise of Mrs. Foggo, the present Superintendent of the Lady Dufferin Zenana Hospital. But does Mr. Cotton know what sort of reputation that lady is gaining in the profession? Is he not aware, also, why Dr. Coates severed his connection with the Committee? One fails to see what striking improvements have been observed in the working of the hospital under Mrs. Foggo, although the Committee asserts that very remarkable improvements have been made. All the improvements which are now observed were inaugurated during the incumbency of Mrs. VanIngen.

Lastly, have Mr. Cotton and the Committee forgotten so soon the conduct of Mrs. Foggo two years ago, when, availing herself of one month's leave on pretence of illness, she went up to Burdwan to attend Her Highness the Maharanee? And have they also forgotten how, at first on their refusing to grant her leave, she absented herself for one day from the hospital without permission? All such faults can be condoned in a European, but in a native they would have been regarded in a very different light.

NAVAVIBHAKAR SADHARANI, Feb. 24th, 1890.

The indigo disputes in Jessore.

57. The *Navavibhákar Sádháraní*, of the 24th February, says that several circumstances have led some people to believe that Mr. Luson is a little partial to the indigo-planters of Magura and Jhenidah. Speaking for himself, the writer cannot say so with any degree of emphasis. Nor is the partiality of an Assistant Magistrate to a particular party or class, though certainly productive of inconvenience, an evil of such magnitude that a great noise or clamour should be made about it. Justice is always to be had in such cases,—if not on the first appeal, at least on the second.

The fact in this connection seems to be that the indigo-planters of the Jessore district force the ryots to cultivate indigo against their wish. The complaints made against the planters are probably exaggerated, for ignorant people are apt to exaggerate their grievances. Forcing ryots to cultivate indigo is certainly illegal; but a thing may be illegal and yet no great evil. What big zemindar of Bengal does not summon his ryots into his presence for trial and punish them when found guilty? It is probably because the officials think that forcing ryots to cultivate indigo is no great evil in reality that they are so lenient to the planters.

In order that peace may be restored in Jessore, it is necessary for Government to decide the question whether or not the ryots will have to cultivate indigo. The ryots have now indeed resolved not to cultivate it, but it is doubtful whether they will be able to stick to that resolution. The Anglo-Indian community will never allow Government to do anything which may lead to the disappearance of indigo manufacture from Bengal. But Government ought to see that the ryots enjoy freedom and are subjected to no oppression. Discontinuance of the indigo industry will not be for the good of the ryots, for the lands set free from indigo will remain perfectly unremunerative, there being no possibility of tenants settling thereon or of their being brought under cultivation. The best course therefore would be to fix a fair rate of remuneration for indigo cultivation, in order that ryots may be induced to cultivate it. The present unwillingness of the ryots to cultivate indigo arises from the fact that they get less by cultivating indigo than by cultivating paddy. The indigo-planters who make much money by the indigo manufacture should therefore increase the rate of remuneration for indigo cultivation, even though they have to do away with something of their pomp and luxury for doing so.

It is hoped that the strong agitation about indigo oppression in Jessore will have the effect of diminishing oppression by the indigo-planters. No matter what sort of man Mr. Luson may be, the friends of the ryots in Jessore will do well to make them act according to the advice he has given them, namely, that they should not break the law. The friends of the ryots should also see that the present dispute is amicably settled without delay.

Uriya Papers.

Utkaldipika Feb. 8th, 1890.

Combination of judicial and executive functions.

58. The *Utkaldípiká*, of the 8th February, in reviewing the Resolution of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal on the Police Administration Report for 1888, remarks, among other things, that it is highly undesirable that the judicial and executive functions should be vested in the same person. The report under notice is illustrative of this remark. Of the persons convicted by Magistrates of offences affecting the human body many, it appears, have been acquitted by Sessions Judges. The editor attributes this to the close connexion which exists between Magisterial and Police officers, and to the fact of the former having to depend a great deal on the latter.

Uriya and Navasamvad, Feb. 5th, 1890.

The minor and vernacular examinations in Orissa.

59. The *Uriya and Navasamvád*, of the 5th February, says that the examiners in the last minor vernacular scholarship and upper primary examinations held in the district of Balasore set very difficult questions to the examinees. The editor hopes that the Joint Inspector of Schools will take notice of the matter.

Samvadvahika, Feb. 6th, 1890.

Art Schools in Bengal.

60. The editor of the *Samvádváhiká*, of the 6th February, in an article on art schools, expresses his pleasure at finding that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has already made up his mind to establish art schools within the territories administered by him. The editor earnestly hopes that His Honour will not, during his administration, fail to establish such useful institutions and thus perpetuate his memory.

Sambadvahika.

Distress in the Balasore district.

61. The same paper requests the Collector of Balasore and the Commissioner of the Division to attend to the forlorn condition of the starving population of Sreejang and Kaliauibisalkhand in the district of Balasore.

SILCHAR, Feb. 10th, 1890

62. The *Silchar*, of the 10th February, says that Mahammad Hamid, Sub-Deputy Collector of Hailakandi, sentenced one Brojakishor Deb of Kalinagar to undergo rigorous imprisonment for a period of two weeks and to pay a fine of Rs. 25 for having sown *til* on a relative's land. That the Sub-Deputy Collector proceeded against Brojakishor in spite of the matter having been compounded is simply because the complainant could not produce a written deed of compromise. The Deputy Commissioner being at that time in Sylhet, Brojakishor could not immediately prefer an appeal and had therefore to undergo imprisonment for five or six days, after which the Deputy Commissioner quashed on appeal the sentence in question on the ground that mere dispossession without injury to a land could not constitute a good ground for a criminal action. How did the Sub-Deputy Collector then convict Brojakishor? And even if Brojakishor had really committed the offence, a fine of Rs. 5 would have been sufficient.

The Sub-Deputy Collector of Hailakandi.

It is to be feared that the thrashing which the officer's chaprasi, Lochanram Deb, received at the hand of a man of Kalinagar whom the former had maltreated for no fault, had something to do with this severe treatment of Brojakishor. The occurrence has made the officer very unpopular among the people of Kalinagar.

An act done by the officer last year during his stay at Kalinagar deserves mention. He forcibly took up his quarters on that occasion in a room in the bazar belonging to one Kalicharan Das, a dealer in wood, who was then away in his native village. The man who was then in charge of the room represented to the Sub-Deputy Collector that it was used both as a cooking-room and as a sleeping-room and would therefore be polluted by the entrance of a Mahomedan into it. But the Sub-Deputy Collector paid no heed to this representation and took forcible possession of the room, and Kalicharan had to perform a purifying ceremony at a cost of several rupees. On arriving at the head-quarters the officer assessed Kalicharan to an income-tax of one rupee without making any enquiry into the income he derived from his trade.

The people of Cachar are ignorant and timid, and it is very unjust for officers to treat them so badly.

SILCHAR

63. The same paper says that the Lushais have readily released the captives for whose release an expedition was sent against them, and they told Mr. Daly that they would have released the prisoners when they were asked for before if a proper ambassador instead of a common chaprasi had been sent to ask for their release. It is therefore clear that the matter could have been amicably settled long before without all this expense. But Englishmen cannot desist from wars, in which they so much delight, when it is the poor Indians who find money for them. The question should be asked, what good will be derived from the annexation of a hilly tract at great cost and infinite trouble?

The Lushai expedition.

Although the prisoners were thus got back without firing a shot, the preparations for the war were attended with great mischief and hardship. On account of the want of a proper supervision of commissariat work in the hurry of the preparations, contractors could safely charge undue prices for provisions supplied by them.

The people have had also to suffer much in the course of the impressment of coolies and boats. The Deputy Commanding Officer, who must be aware with what oppression impressment is attended, should have given clear directions as to the classes of persons who should be impressed. In the absence of such directions, the persons entrusted with the work of impressment impressed respectable Lachar Brahmans, sick people, and people who have no one else to

take care of their children; and in spite of the direction for the seizure of only small boats, all boats, large and small, were seized.

Great injustice has also been done by not requiring planters, who are also mirasidars, to furnish coolies and by requiring only native mirasidars to do so. The officers of the local law courts, who have very little work to do, could have been taken with the expedition on a little larger salary than they get instead of wasting money by appointing new men to accompany the expedition.

Boats are still being seized though boats are no more required. The Sudder Tehsildar, Nimai Baboo, who has been entrusted with the work of supplying food for elephants, has yet paid no compensation to a gardener of Larchhingar whose sugarcanes have been cut down by him. There is quite an impressment panic in Cachar, so that people do not venture out.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.

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